

House File 2341 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 2341
BY COMMITTEE ON HUMAN
RESOURCES

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 593)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the operation of certain schools under the
2 purview of the college student aid commission.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 261B.13 Prohibition.

2 1. Notwithstanding any other provision in this chapter, a
3 school or other entity that grants a degree shall not conduct
4 any portion of a course of instruction or any aspect of its
5 operations or otherwise establish a presence in this state if
6 either of the following conditions exist:

7 a. The school or other entity claims or infers
8 accreditation, approval, charter, or other recognition by an
9 entity that is not an accrediting agency recognized by the
10 United States department of education.

b. With the exception of a school that qualifies for an exemption under section 261B.11, subsection 1, paragraph "h", the school or other entity is not accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by the United States department of education.

15 2. This section applies to a school that has a simultaneous
16 presence in the United States and in a foreign country,
17 including but not limited to a school that grants degrees
18 in the practice of medicine, dentistry, law, or veterinary
19 medicine.

20 3. A school registered under this chapter or otherwise
21 authorized to operate under the laws of this state shall not
22 enter into an agreement to conduct a course of instruction,
23 confer a degree, or conduct any other aspect of its operation
24 with another school that is in violation of this section.

25 EXPLANATION

26 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
27 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

28 This bill prohibits a school or other entity from conducting
29 operations or establishing a presence in this state if the
30 school claims or infers accreditation, approval, charter, or
31 other recognition by an entity that is not an accrediting
32 agency recognized by the United States department of education,
33 or, with the exception of a school that qualifies for a
34 religious exemption under Code section 261B.11(1)(h), the
35 school is not accredited by an accrediting agency recognized by

1 the United States department of education. The bill applies to
2 schools that have a presence in the United States and a foreign
3 country. Under the bill, a school registered with the college
4 student aid commission under Code chapter 261B shall not enter
5 into an agreement to conduct a course of instruction, confer
6 a degree, or conduct any other aspect of its operation with
7 another school that is in violation of the bill.

8 Code section 261B.12 provides that the commission shall
9 order a school to show cause why the commission should
10 not issue a cease and desist order to the school when the
11 commission or the commission's designee believes a school is
12 in violation of Code chapter 261B. If the school continues
13 to be in violation of Code chapter 261B, the commission may
14 issue a cease and desist order and subsequently seek judicial
15 enforcement of that order in district court.